Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know whether he has applied for any recent vacancy arising in the Physics Department of the College?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* No formal application has been received. There is no harm in telling this House that he came to me once and said that he wanted to apply, and I said he can put in an application. But the application never came.

Motion for the removal of the Deputy President

Mr. President: Mr. M. Krishna Menon informs me that he does not propose to move his Resolution.

I have now to read the resolution which Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan has given notice of.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassann *(Vadakkancheri):* With your leave Sir, before the Chair proceeds to read the Resolution I would inform the House.....

Mr. President: Order, order.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Sir, I am not moving the resolution but I may inform the Chair as well as this Hon'ble House of the great disappointment.....

Mr. President: Order, order. Will the Hon'ble Member confine himself to that short statement that he is not moving the resolution.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I am not moving the resolution that I have placed before the Chair, though it is a very important one.

SUICIDES DUE TO STARVATION

163. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they will be pleased to inform the number of suicides due to starvation within the last 3 months showing the Taluks and Villages in which such people lived;

(*b*) the caste-war statement of those who committed suicides for reasons shown in (*a*)?

Khan Sahib Y. Muhammad Roshan Sahib Bahadur *(Commissioner of Police):* (*a*) & (*b*) A statement is appended. *(See Appendix III)*

ELEPHANTS CAUGHT DURING THE LAST TEN YEARS—PARTICULARS REGARDING

164. Mr. C. K. S. Moni *(Nominated):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the total number of elephants caught for the last ten years from the Government forests, giving the numbers for each year and the respective expenditure;

(*b*) the total number sold in each year and the amount realised;

(*c*) out of the total number caught during this period how many remain undisposed of?

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):*

(*a*) 32 elephants were captured as shown below.—

Year	*No.*	*Expenditure* Rs.	A.	P.
1109	..		..	
1110	..		..	
1111	..		..	
1112	4	2,165	13	0
1113	6	2,271	5	6
1114	6	2,104	5	0
1115	6	1,996	5	1
1116	2	694	4	0
1117	8	2,908	0	0
1118	..		..	
Total	32	12,140	0	7

(*b*) *Year*
1113 .. 1 for Rs. 400—0—0.
1114 .. 1 for Rs. 300—0—0.
1115 .. 2 for Rs. 800—0—0.
1117 .. 1 liberated from the kraal.

(*c*) 5.

Motion regarding Food Control Measures

Mr. President: The next business is Mr. Kumaran Ezhuthassan, to continue his reply on the motion regarding food supplies.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Mr. President, Sir, the last day of the last meeting when the clock showed 5 o' clock, I got the shock that the food proposition which

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was engaging the attention of 14 lakhs and more of His Highness' subjects which by the kind leave of the Hon'ble Chair, I was able to discuss and have it discussed ably, beautifully and usefully for two days, was stifled when I was marshalling important facts which ran into the exhaustion of the English alphabet, when I had reached No. 4, namely, commandeering, the most important of them, it being 5, I had to stop. Therefore, I proceed today, Sir, with your leave from No. 5 onwards. No. 4 was commandeering. I wanted to say on that day, and I do say now today, that that is the most important thing under that commandeering, under the various sub-heads, which I do not develop here for want of time. I want to inform the House, and through the House, the Government of Cochin, that unless the commandeering is made most effective and therefore useful in the various ways that I suggested, I am not suggesting now, because my suggestions have reached the quarters which ought to read them. I am satisfied with that. Make it as effective, let it not be nominal. Then, Sir, my next suggestion was that let not your control measures be for watching smuggling. Let it be for arresting the smuggler, punishing him, and thereby preventing any more smuggling. In that sub-head, I wanted to tell this House and through this House, the Government to see that it is efficiently done. Let attractive presents be given to the officers, whether paid Rs. 11 or paid higher, attractive presents be given to them. Let honest work be rewarded as it becomes the munificient Government of Cochin. Another sub-head under that main head, Sir, was that let the delinquent, whether he be a low-paid peon on Rs. 11, or the high-paid Tahsildar, or even higher persons, let them be punished, forgetting for the time being Shakespeare' dictum that justice should be tempered with mercy. That was the suggestion that I had to make, and I do make the suggestion here. I hope the Government would be pleased to respond, as I am glad to see that it is responding. The next main head that I wanted to place before the House was with regard to the removal of the inequity of control measures. In absolutely necessary food stuffs in which we are deficient, there should be very very strict control measures, but with regard to others, Sir, I wanted to say, and I do say now, let ordinary rules of economic laws—supply and demand—be the criterion. The next point that I wanted to submit to the House was that as far as tapioca is concerned, which was the subject matter of a question today, let the meaningless control order be removed, or let it be worked logically. Tapioca had been grown in extensive areas. The growers are not allowed to export, the Government is not pleased to purchase. Tapioca is therefore allowed to rot and that to the ruin of the agriculturists. Let it be made acceptable to the cultivator was the proposition that I wanted to place before the Government. I appeal to this House and through this House to the Government to respond. Then, Sir, what I wanted to tell this House was that as far as the home products are concerned, let it be controlled beautifully and preserved and commandeered effectively. With regard to imports from British India, which I am glad to note the other Governments have been pleased to give us, at least some quota in previous years, I wanted to make one suggestion. In view of the fact that though quotas are given, though not adequate, in view of the fact that quotas used to be given from far off Kashmir, Sind, Baluchistan, Central Provinces, Oudh and other distant places, I am of opinion that it is possible through the agency of our distinguished Diwan of today, it is possible to have these quotas supplied to us from the nearest Province, namely, Madras, thereby avoiding and saving unduly large expenditure of transport. And one other suggestion in that behalf was one of reciprocity. When fuel necessary for boiling the little ration that we get, can be had only at prohibitive cost, our Government has been magnanimous enough to help the neighbour, namely, the British Province, by supplying it with fuel on comparatively cheap rates and it will not be a hard proposition to negotiate with the Madras Provincial Government and succeed in getting ton per ton of rice from the Madras Province on the ground of reciprocity. For one ton of fuel that we supply to the Madras Government, let them give us one ton of rice at their price, not cheaply, at their home price. I am of opinion, Sir,.....

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Without interruption, I may inform the House that on more than one occasion, the Madras Government has come to our help by making generous contributions of rice, by loans and liberal quotas also.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I thank the Hon'ble Member for the kind information that is given. Not a word of mine went to show that we are not grateful. It is duly and beautifully acknowledged and on the floor of this House I do assert the gratitude that we extend to the Government of Madras. But my proposition, Sir, was that by the successful working of the two distinguished Diwans of the two sister States, who are working jointly on the food problem, it will be possible, to get concessions and this Hon'ble House will be pleased to see ere long that they are successful in getting the whole quota, at least a major portion of the

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quota, from the nearby province. That is the appeal that I make to the Diwan of Cochin through the President. Apart from that, consistently with our gratitude to the Madras Government, we have a case to be presented to the Madras Government on the ground of reciprocity that for one ton of cheap fuel that we give, let us pray and succeed in getting one ton of rice at their home price, not at cheap price, or if necessary more. But let us have the transport charges fair, is the proposition that I place before this House. Please understand the true implications of this suggestion and I am sure it will be worked out and successfully worked out.

Yes, Sir, I believe I have exhausted all the points, all the main heads of my suggestions that I wanted to place before the House, because I am not in possession of all the papers before me—I have other papers which have fused—and therefore I am not in possession of all the weapons. Because of the intensity of feeling in my heart at this all—arresting question of food supply to the poor 14 lakhs of people of Cochin, I am able from my memory to place before this House these major heads and if necessary I can pass on to the authorities the detailed suggestions that I have. Then, Sir, I wanted to wind up my debate with an expression of thankfulness to all those concerned in the successful rationing and the almost successful commandeering that was happily introduced here by our ex-Diwan Mr. Dixon, whose name will ever be cherished in the mind of every citizen of the State, rich, or poor, living in the town or in the rural areas. And I am happy to note, and every Hon'ble Member in this House will be happy to note, that as far as the food question is concerned, our present Diwan, distinguished Diwan, is trying to improve upon the system that is introduced by our late Diwan, and let all success crown his efforts is the humble prayer that goes from the bottom of my heart, as also from the bottom of the heart of every representative of this House, though most of the seats are vacant. *(Laughter)*. Sir, I do wind up this debate for fear of time. All that was stated during the course of these two days so graciously granted by you, Sir, but stifled unfortunately, was not advanced in any spirit of criticism. It was in the shape of helpful suggestions, suggestions placed before a responsive government, which we want to be responsible, suggestions placed before such a government to react to the extent possible, and I may tell this House that I am convinced that reaction upon these suggestions will be had to the extent to which it is possible, with the limitations wherever those limitations exist. Yes, Sir, I wanted to thank the Government for what they have done, and also the hon'ble members, every section of this House, which had contributed suggestion after suggestion, and I was not surprised to find that when it was nearing 5 O'clock during the last day and as also I had given notice of my intention that this is not a proposition which I had brought forward to defeat the Government of Cochin by a vote against them, but only in the shape of helpful suggestions, that the benches were empty and the reading on the walls, namely, five, created a feeling, I do not know how to describe, and therefore, had to close. I submit again, once more, Sir, I thank every Hon'ble Member of this House for having contributed his mite in the discussion and thank every Hon'ble Member in the Treasury Benches for the patient hearing they were giving us. I thank the distinguished Diwan of Cochin for assuring that to the extent possible reactions immediate will follow. Once again thanking the House, I resume my seat.

Mr. President: I take it that the Hon'ble Member has achieved his object which was only to raise a discussion. I hope he does not want anything further to be done about this motion.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: I don't want anything more. It was simply to raise a discussion that I tabled this motion.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS—NON-OFFICIAL BILLS

The Cochin Agriculturists' Relief Act (Amendment) Bill—Mr. K. S. Panicker

Mr. President: We will now take up Legislative Business. We will continue the discussion of Mr. K. S. Panicker's Cochin Agriculturists' Relief Act (Amendment) Bill.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Mr. President, I move under the Standing Orders that the discussion on this useful measure be passed over and I make this motion with the consent of the Hon'ble mover of this amending Bill with the object of having a joint consideration of another amendment tabled by me which is coming up tomorrow. My amendment contains the provisions of this amending Bill also. So a joint consideration of both the proposed amendments may be very helpful and it will facilitate the business of the House and with the consent of the Hon'ble mover of this Bill as already stated I move that this be passed over.

Mr. K. S. Panicker *(Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram)*: Sir, I have no objection.

Motion put and carried

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